

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2338

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2002

WATER TREATMENT PLANTS FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER

RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have allocated several hundred crores of rupees for setting up water treatment plants in the States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the details of the States that have not set up such plants so far;
- (d) the details of the States that have not provided clean and potable drinking water to the rural inhabitants and they are still getting water with brackishness, fluorides, excess iron etc.; and
- (e) the action taken or proposed to be taken against such States?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL)

(a) to (c) Between 1992-98, the Government of India has sanctioned about Rs. 1345 crores to different States for providing safe drinking water free from fluoride, salinity, iron, arsenic etc. in the quality affected habitations under Sub-Mission Programme of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The details of projects sanctioned with approved cost are given in Annex -I. Sub-Mission Programme envisaged provision of safe drinking water to quality affected habitations by installing defluoridation plants, desalination plants, iron removal plants etc., and through piped water supply schemes from alternate sources. The details regarding installation of desalination plants, defluoridation plants and iron removal plants by the State Governments are given in the Annex-II, III and IV respectively.

(d) & (e) Rural Water Supply is a State subject. State Governments implement schemes/projects on rural drinking water supply from their own resources. The Government of India supplements their efforts to overcome the water crisis by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). With effect from 01.04.1998, powers have been delegated to State Governments to plan, approve and implement projects under ARWSP. Up to 15% of ARWSP funds are to be earmarked by the State Governments for sanction of projects under Sub-Mission Programme for providing safe drinking water free from brackishness, fluorides, excess iron etc. State Governments have been repeatedly requested to sanction such projects to provide safe drinking water to the rural inhabitants.